HB950 – CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT – DISCLOSURE OF REPORTS AND RECORDS

February 20, 2025

JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

SUPPORT

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Anne Arundel County Public Schools (AACPS) supports **HB905**. This bill expands the circumstances under which a report or record concerning child abuse or neglect may be disclosed by the Department of Human Services to include: (1) the administrator of a child care center operated by or on behalf of a unit of State or local government or in a state-occupied building; (2) the coach, team administrator, or manager of a youth sports program; and (3) the administrator or other appropriate personnel of any organization that provides adult supervision or care and control of children.

AACPS supports this bill which will contribute to the safety and well-being of students in school and in the community. Safety in public schools is increasingly important to local boards of education. AACPS appreciates the intent to this legislation to ensure that employers with care and control of children are notified of an indicated finding of child abuse or neglect by one of their employees. Timely notification of a suspected abuser potentially working with or around children is paramount to the safety of the children in these programs. Allowing the Department of Human Services to expand this disclosure to include coaches, sports teams, childcare centers, and any other organization that provides supervision of children only improves student safety in the community.

Accordingly, AACPS respectfully requests a FAVORABLE committee report on HB950.